

**City of Berkeley Police Department (BPD) Public Information Officer (PIO) Email UPDATE -  
Possible Bomb Threat Last Night (May 2, 2012)**

**Possible Bomb Threat Last Night in the 2600 Block of LeConte Avenue in the City of Berkeley**

“Wednesday night, May 2, 2012 a community member from the 2500 block of LeConte Avenue called the City of Berkeley Police Department (BPD) at approximately 7:36 p.m. as he heard a ticking sound in his van. The van was parked unlocked (as is his pattern, he told BPD) in the 2600 block of LeConte Avenue. The man said he had just fired an employee and the employee had made some threats.”

“The BPD beat/patrol officer inspected the van and heard a ticking type sound. Due to the circumstances, the BPD Watch Commander/Lieutenant appropriately directed that the area be cordoned off for safety and he activated the BPD EOD (Explosive Ordinance Device) aka Bomb squad to respond. BPD personnel set up a Command Post at Euclid and LeConte Avenues. BPD officers evacuated community members from homes adjacent to the van. The Watch Commander also directed personnel to activate BENS, the **B**erkeley **E**mergency **N**otification **S**ystem, to advise community members of the possible explosive device and to evacuate the area and/or remain in their homes. Members of the BPD EOD squad managed the scene and the further investigation of the van. They did not find an explosive device. The sound that had been heard was likely the result of a battery operated or mechanical part of the specialized van that had been losing power.”

“An operation and investigation of this type dictates caution and takes time, thus vehicular traffic, pedestrian traffic and some community members that had been evacuated were impacted for approximately five (5) hours. BPD completed the investigation and resolved the incident at approximately 1:30 a.m. BPD appreciates the cooperation and understanding of the community during this incident.”

*Sergeant Mary C, Kusmiss S-6  
BPD Public Information Officer*